

International Intelligence

China plays off the superpowers

A Chinese trade delegation arrived in Moscow on Feb. 8 for talks with the Soviets on an agreement to be signed later this month, the New China News Agency reported Feb. 9. As part of expanding trade relations, the Soviets have opened a branch of their ocean shipping company in Shanghai, and China has set up a similar office in Odessa.

Another Chinese delegation headed by Vice-Foreign Minister Qian Qichen arrived in Moscow the same day for talks on border disputes, the first such talks in nine years. Discussions are to center on demarcating the border along the waterways and islands in the Ussuri and Amur rivers dividing north-eastern China and Soviet Siberia.

But the Chinese still consider the Soviet Union the major threat, according to sources quoted in the European edition of the *Wall Street Journal*. "Use the barbarians against the barbarians" is the Chinese method of diplomacy between the superpowers, British diplomatic sources are quoted.

The Soviet aim is "to reduce the influence of the Americans and strengthen their position. The struggles between the superpowers in this region will become more acute," said a Chinese source.

China does want the United States to slow the Strategic Defense Initiative. "The idea in your [the U.S.] mind that you can race the Soviets into [economic] collapse is dangerous," said Zhu Ruizhen of the Institute for Soviet Studies at the Chinese Academy of Scientists. "No country can outdo the Soviet Union in enduring difficulties."

Greece sentences narco freed in Sweden

The Greek government has sentenced Stiros Riganakos to nine years in prison for drug smuggling between Holland and Sweden. Riganakos was one of Sweden's three top "heroin kings." Although sentenced to a

light prison term for heroin smuggling by a Stockholm court in 1982, he was released almost immediately.

Riganakos, who arrived in Sweden in 1969, appears to have enjoyed very high-level political protection. He was let off the hook by the late Prime Minister Olof Palme, who intervened on his behalf with the argument that he was a political refugee from the Greek military junta. Riganakos' lawyer, Hans-Göran Frank, is famous for his pro-Soviet sympathies and his work with the American deserters' movement in Sweden.

Another who intervened on Riganakos' behalf was Stockholm Police Chief Hans Holmér, who has recently come under heavy criticism for his role in covering up Soviet links to the assassination of Palme. Holmér is in charge of the "investigation" of the murder.

Israel agrees to meet with Egypt and Jordan

Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres reported to the Knesset (Parliament) Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Feb. 9 that Israel has agreed with Egypt and Jordan on 10 points regarding an international conference to negotiate a regional peace accord. The basis for negotiations will be U.N. resolutions 242 and 338.

Among the points of agreement he enumerated:

- The conference will not be a substitute for direct bilateral negotiations, but instead should encourage them.

- The conference will have no authority to enforce a solution or to cancel any bilateral agreements.

- Following the opening of the conference, the negotiations will proceed in the framework of bilateral geographic committees, without superpower participation.

- Negotiations in one committee "are not dependent on the proceedings in another committee," that is: There will not be a united Arab delegation.

- The conference will not be convened

without prior agreement concerning rules and procedures, and concerning Palestinian representation.

Israel still differs with Egypt and Jordan over three issues: Soviet participation in the conference, the Palestinian representation, and regarding whether the conference will be convened more than once.

Moscow, German friends push 'détente initiative'

Will Mikhail Gorbachov visit Bonn in 1987?

In an interview with the West German daily *Die Welt*, Novosti news agency director Valentin Falin, a former ambassador to Bonn, speculated to this effect, saying that a Gorbachov visit "might be the subject of talks during the upcoming visit of [Deputy Prime Minister] Antonov." Antonov will be in Bonn on April 2-3 for a meeting of the Soviet-West German joint economic commission.

But Gennadi Gerassimov, spokesman for the Soviet foreign ministry, said the Soviet leader had no plans to visit Germany. The Soviets would, however, he claims, like German State President Richard von Weizsäcker to visit Moscow. The initiative should come from Weizsäcker, however, since Moscow thinks "it is Bonn's turn now to make a step towards improvement of relations."

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher is willing to oblige. He "has launched a bold initiative for a new phase of détente and fresh *Ostpolitik* . . . based largely on the West offering the Soviet leader economic support for his changes," London's *Daily Telegraph* reported from Bonn on Feb. 9.

Cyprus becomes hot intelligence center

Greek Cyprus appears to be replacing old Beirut as one of the most important intelligence centers for the Middle East.

Briefly

● The Anglican Church has just appointed one Bishop Brown to be its new Bishop of Cyprus. Brown has been given an explicit mandate to "develop new bridges to Islam."

● The Church of Sweden has appointed American-born Desmond Carragher director general for its refugee-relief organization in Cyprus, *Diakonia*. Carragher, a former leader of the American deserters' movement in Sweden during the Vietnam War era, is a KGB-linked intelligence hand.

The Carragher assignment portends a new channel for terrorism into Europe. He was recently exposed for helping members of the Abu Nidal group to enter Europe in 1982, posing as "Lebanese refugees." Heading a "refugee-relief organization" in Cyprus clearly positions him to again infiltrate terrorists into Europe, under cover provided by an increasing flow of refugees from Lebanon.

East bloc leaders uneasy over Gorbachov purges

Soviet Defense Minister Marshal Sergei Sokolov arrived in Czechoslovakia Feb. 9 with a big military delegation. Radio Moscow said he and Czech leader Gustav Husak stressed the "particular importance" of "greater unity" among Warsaw Pact countries.

Husak, however, is rumored to be one of the projected victims of Gorbachov's purge policy in the East bloc countries. Others are said to be East Germany's Erich Honecker, Bulgaria's Todor Zhivkov, and Romania's Nicolai Ceausescu.

As if to confirm such rumors, the East German leadership has reacted very coolly to Gorbachov's latest "reforms." The party paper *Neues Deutschland* did not publish Gorbachov's speech at the recent Central Committee plenum, the usual practice, but restricted itself to a rather short TASS summary. News of the final Central Committee resolution appeared on page five, in an article all of 21 lines long.

When Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze arrived in East Berlin on Feb.

2, not a single German Politburo member was on hand at the airport.

Western specialists think Honecker may be out by the end of the year, perhaps remaining as state president, but losing the real leadership, the post of party general secretary, to a "reformer."

Pentagon releases photos of Soviets' Viet forces

The U.S. military has photographs showing Soviet naval and air forces stationed at the expanded base on Cam Ranh Bay in southern Vietnam, and for the first time ever, officially released them to the press Feb. 9.

The disclosures were made in Australia by Adm. James Lyons, commander in chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. Soviets diplomats had recently denied military facilities in Vietnam.

Lyons said the photographs were taken in December 1986 and showed a total of seven piers and numerous ships and submarines berthed at the port. The facilities have "quadrupled" since the United States left Vietnam in 1975, and apart from Afghanistan, are Moscow's largest foreign deployment, giving them the capability to attack anywhere in the South Pacific.

He commented on Soviet moves to reach fishing agreements with Pacific island states: "Hogwash. The Soviets are after more than fish."

Citing the shoot-down of KAL-007 in September 1983 and other incidents, Lyons declared that Soviet behavior reflects "a fourth-century mentality. If you're going to join the 20th century then you have to join it all the way."

He identified the Philippines as the center of the struggle for the Pacific, and said of the "self-appointed experts who say we have other alternatives" to U.S. bases at Subic Bay and Clark Field, "Well, I'm telling you there are no good other alternatives. But that misses the strategic dimension of that question. If we were to withdraw from those facilities, to me, that would be totally destabilizing to the region."

● **A LIBEL SUIT** against Britain's *The Economist* by a Greek publication, *To Ethnos*, began in London the first week of February. *The Economist* is accused of libel for reporting that the Athens-based publication was created through funding from Boris Pankin, Soviet ambassador to Sweden.

● **POLISH FOREIGN** Minister Marian Orzechowski concluded a three day visit to Teheran Feb. 6. He gave President Ali Khamenii a copy of the Koran in Polish, and signed a letter of understanding for expansion of ties in political, economic, and cultural areas. Iran will export oil and some agricultural products to Poland.

● **LA CROIX**, a Paris daily, raised the alarm Feb. 9 about a possible U.S. troop withdrawal from Europe. "Now, everything is possible, the impossible included: the scenario for control of a defenseless Europe by the Soviets within three days. . . ." The article attacks Georgia's Sen. Sam Nunn, who is called a potential future defense secretary.

● **MARCUS WOLF**, a senior official of the East German Stasi intelligence service, has "resigned," his government announced. Skeptical Western sources wonder where he will turn up. Wolf has been key to Soviet KGB operations running through the U.S. Department of Justice's "anti-Nazi" Office of Special Investigations.

● **JORDANIAN ANTI-DRUG** agents seized more than a ton of hashish found in a container aboard an East German ship docked at Aqaba port.

● **THE VATICAN** has appointed a special commission, including American Cardinals, to investigate the Seattle Archdiocese of Archbishop Hunthausen. The ultraliberal Hunthausen was removed from all duties by the Vatican last year.